

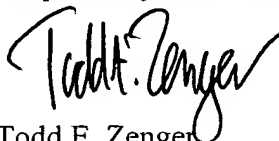
the contact containment portion(s) comprising a passageway through which the sulphur dioxide gas and the water codirectionally flow in contact with each other and in which at least a portion of the sulphur dioxide gas reacts with the water to form sulphurous acid, and means for discharging the sulphurous acid and any unreacted sulphur dioxide gas.

#### REMARKS

The applicant appreciates the telephone call of Examiner Ohorodnik to clarify the preliminary amendments to this case. Claims 1-4 have been canceled. Claim 5 was previously determined to be allowable. New claim 6 has been added and is allowable. The applicant requests notice of allowance as soon as possible.

DATED this 16th day of November, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



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